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MEMORANDUM FOR Howard Hogan
 Chief, Decennial Statistical Studies Division

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Subject: Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation Survey: Sample Size Estimates

This memorandum documents our current estimates of housing unit sample size for the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation (ACE) survey for budgeting purposes. These sample sizes could change due to the budget process or operational resource constraints. Furthermore, the actual sample sizes may be different to the extent the universe differs from the assumptions we used to estimate these numbers.

These numbers are presented for the total U.S. which includes the 50 states and the District of Columbia, and are consistent with the approximately 300,000 housing unit ACE design. Furthermore, these numbers assume that the ACE sample design is contingent on the Integrated Coverage Measurement (ICM) sample design which is the basis of the listing and block cluster numbers.

The housing unit sample sizes in terms of listing and interviewing are provided in the table. These numbers are approximately 1,988,000 and 311,000, respectively, for the total U.S. The ACE interview workload is over 300,000 housing units because, for budgeting purposes, we want to be conservative and reflect the possibility that we may design for a slightly larger number of housing units. While for Puerto Rico, the comparable numbers are approximately 47,000 and 14,500. The number of housing units designated for person interview includes all occupied and vacant P-sample units. Due to a recent decision in reference 1, supplemental housing units will not be part of interviewing. The estimates of occupied P-sample housing units are provided for documentation. Note that sample size estimates for any of the Person Follow-up and the Housing Unit Follow-up operations are not reflected in any of these housing unit estimates.

TABLE: ACE ESTIMATED SAMPLE SIZES

| Sample Size | U.S. and Puerto Rico Total | U.S. | | | Puerto Rico | | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| | | Total | Medium and Large Blocks | Small Blocks | Total | Medium and Large Blocks | Small Blocks |
| P-sample Housing Units (Occupied) | 285,500 | 272,600 | 271,700 | 900 | 12,900 | 12,800 | 100 |
| P-sample Housing Units (Occupied and Vacant) | 325,500 | 311,000 | 310,000 | 1,000 | 14,500 | 14,400 | 100 |
| Listed Housing Units | 2,035,000 | 1,988,000 | 1,978,000 | 10,000 | 47,000 | 46,700 | 300 |
| Listed Block Clusters | 30,575 | 30,000 | 25,000 | 5,000 | 575 | 480 | 95 |

The data used to derive these estimates include:

- 1990 Census housing unit and block size distributions
- 1997 annual average state gross vacancy numbers (based on unofficial Housing Vacancy Survey estimates)
- an 11.3 percent vacancy rate (1990 Census) for Puerto Rico with 40 percent of all the housing units being in large blocks
- proportional allocation of sample within state for listing
- the sample of 355 block clusters from American Indian reservations

Note that the number of block clusters that is designated for interview is currently unknown.

Reference

- 1 Memorandum for J. Thompson from H. Hogan, "Changes Planned for the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation Interviewing," March 31, 1999, DRAFT.

cc:

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